

ABSTRACT

Alarm clock systems, methods and AC power sockets employ voice synthesis technology to control functions without physical manipulation. One or more processors control clocking and alarm functions within a modular unit. A speech recognition processor 5 digitizes and processes audible commands. A microphone senses the audible commands. The alarm clock may be programmed by the user to recognize and associate user-chosen audible commands with specific alarm functions, for example, the alarm clock system may be programmed to activate the alarm function in response to the command "Turn alarm on". Audible prompts generated by a voice synthesizer and icons shown on a display of the alarm 10 clock system assist the user in programming and setting. Voice command data is stored in an internal memory of the alarm clock system. A wireless transmitter and corresponding, removably attachable wireless receiver may be further integrated into the alarm or clocking, functions of the alarm clock system to control other electronic devices, for example, a radio, television and/or a coffee machine.